

Town of Pomfret Selectboard  
Approved Meeting Minutes  
12/07/2022

Present: Emily Grube, John Peters, Benjamin Brickner, Steve Chamberlin, Jon Harrington  
(until 7:30)

Public: Jim Potter (Road Foreman), Bill Emmons (Planning Commission), Doug Tuthill  
(Constable), Karen Osnoe (ZA, Delinquent Tax Collector), Lindsay Hyde, Cathy Peters,  
Betsy Rhodes, Scott Pearce, Greg Olmstead, Scott Barger, Jake Astbury, Jennifer  
Falvey, Michael Piekny, Kevin Rice (Fire Chief), Neil Lamson (Lister), Greg Hartford,  
Josh Trimpj, Tracie Hartford, Cynthia Hewitt (Selectboard Assistant)

1. John called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm
2. Executive Session
  - a. Ben moved and John seconded that the Selectboard enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(1)(F) to discuss confidential attorney-client communications. Unanimous. The Selectboard entered executive session at 6:05 pm.
  - b. The Selectboard exited executive session at 6:57 pm, no decisions having been made therein.
3. John called the meeting to back order at 7:00 pm
4. Public Comment – None
5. Review of Agenda – Remove Ordinance Enforcement and FY 2024 Municipal and Highway Budgets (except Fire Department budget); add South Pomfret Scoping Study Change in Personnel Request. Ben moved these changes; John seconded. Unanimous.
6. Road Foreman’s Report
  - a. Jim reports Pike has confirmed when the remaining bandrail will be installed and he suggested the town now pay the remaining balance to Pike.
  - b. Jim obtained two quotes for a new Pressure Washer. He recommends the Power Eagle unit for \$8,625 as this was the lesser quote, Power Eagle makes service calls in our area, and has better-quality equipment. Steve moved and John seconded Jim be authorized to purchase the Power Eagle power washer. Unanimous.
  - c. A Bartlett Brook Road resident has asked permission to relocate the street sign on Pomfret Road behind the drainage ditch and to remount the sign on a specialty granite post to be provided by the resident. Jim will check with Vtrans on safety and liability issues.
  - d. Jon asked Jim if there are any shovel ready highway projects in case we receive grant funding. Jim believes the double culvert work on Wild Apple Road should be the next priority once funding becomes available. Emily will prepare an RFP.
  - e. The new Ford F550 will go Viking on December 19 for body work. Jim says Viking is backed-up and the work may not be completed until spring. Steve moved and Emily seconded that John be authorized to sign the Viking body work contract. Unanimous (Jon Harrington absent).

7. Items for Discussion or Vote
  - a. Ryan Palmer, Windsor County Sheriff-elect – Mr. Palmer has a last minute conflict and will be invited to attend the next board meeting on December 14.
  - b. Zoning Violations – Karen has drafted a violation letter for review by the town attorney and will send to multiple ongoing zoning violators.
  - c. Delinquent Tax Account Status – Karen is working with the town’s attorney on multiple tax sales; the town recently received a \$10,000 payment in respect of a delinquent tax account, with an additional \$10,000 promised in the near future.
  - d. Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) Review Committee – Two Rivers requested that a board member be appointed to the LHMP review committee; Emily volunteered. Ben moved and John seconded the appointment. Unanimous (Jon Harrington absent).
  - e. Town Hall Electrical Renovations – John has talked with two electrical contractors. He questioned whether payment would come from ARPA funds or the Building Reserve Account. He also will get some quotes for replacing stoves in the kitchen. Jim & crew will take the old stoves to the dump at some point. Emily suggested removing propane entirely, which would require replacing the existing propane water heater. John also brought up the idea of solar power; Neil will forward a quote from HB Energy Solutions, which was received in March 2022. Doug recommends having an engineer examine the roof to confirm it can handle the weight.
  - f. Dog Ordinance Complaint – Pomfret Road resident Jennifer Falvey commented on a letter she recently received from the board following the board’s receipt of complaints regarding her dogs.
  - g. Fire Department Budget – Scott Barger, Pomfret-Teago FD Treasurer, presented the department’s budget request for FY 2024. This will be added to the budget spreadsheet and further discussed at the next meeting. Budget deliberations will continue at a special meeting on Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30 pm.
  - h. Warrants – Ben moved and Steve seconded approval of A/P Warrant 23057 in the amount of \$24,448.52. Unanimous (Jon Harrington absent).
  - i. Ben moved and Emily seconded approval of 11/16 & 11/29 minutes without changes. Unanimous (Jon Harrington absent).
8. Meeting Wrap-Up
  - a. Correspondence – Frank Perron has asked that the board add a line item in the budget for a Forest Fire Warden stipend. John has determined that purchase of an Apple TV and compatible Apple laptop will cost ±\$1,300. Emily reports the state Municipal Roads General Permit will need to be renewed next month.
  - b. Assignments – Jim to speak with Vtrans re: moving Bartlett Brook road sign, and Ellen re: releasing the Pike payment. John to speak with Jim re: plowing the fire department, and to obtain quotes for electrical wiring in the Town Hall; Emily to reschedule with Ryan Palmer, to discuss with Jim removal of the stoves in the Town Hall, and Deb Jones regarding an engineering study. Ben to inform Two Rivers of Emily’s appointment to the LHMP Review Committee, post the Fire Department

- budget on the website, and follow up with the town attorney regarding executive session matters.
- c. Agenda for next meeting (12/14/2022) – Ryan Palmer, property tax lien; Apple computer equipment purchase; Town Hall renovations; FY 2024 Municipal and Highway budgets.
9. Executive Session
- a. Ben moved and John seconded that the Selectboard reenter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(1)(F) to discuss confidential attorney-client communications. Unanimous (Jon Harrington absent). The Selectboard reentered executive session at 9:35 pm.
  - b. The Selectboard exited executive session at 9:55 pm, no decisions having been made therein.
10. Referral to Town Attorney – Ben moved and John seconded that all pending and future correspondence with Jennifer Falvey be forwarded to the town's attorney, that the town attorney be asked to determine whether and what type of response is warranted, and that all future communication with Ms. Falvey be made through the town's attorney. Unanimous (Jon Harrington absent).
11. Adjournment – Ben moved and John (or maybe Steve) seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 pm.